

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3828
 NAZI WAR CRIMES CLOSURE ACT
 DATE 2007

DISPATCH	CLASSIFICATION SECRET	PROCESSING																																																		
		PROPOSED	ACTION	ACCOMPLISHED																																																
TO Chief, Munich Liaison Base			MARKED FOR INDEXING																																																	
INFO Chief of Station, Germany			NO INDEXING REQUIRED																																																	
FROM Chief, EE			ONLY QUALIFIED HEADQUARTERS DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING																																																	
SUBJECT OPHILL Dr. Herbert KRAUS and Hans RECHENBERG			ABSTRACT																																																	
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ACTION REQUIRED REFERENCES																																																				
Ref: BGMA 58290, 2 April 1962																																																				
<p>1. Headquarters is in possession of a voluminous file dating back to 1948 on Dr. Herbert KRAUS, the subject of [] A brief summary of this file for your information follows:</p> <p>Dr. Herbert KRAUS, born Nov 18, 1911 in Zagreb, Croatia, Austrian rightist political figure, was for years head of the League of Independents (VdU) and editor and publisher of its newspaper the "Neue Front". He has also published a weekly-- "Berichte und Informationen" and has been director of the "Oesterreichisches Forschungs Institut fuer Wirtschaft und Politik". He has been described as pro-Western and anti-Russian. He learned the Russian language while traveling in the USSR in 1938-1939. He later published a book on his experiences there which was described as anti-Soviet, and reportedly resulted in his being declared "persona non grata" by the Russians.</p> <p>ODOPAL established contact with KRAUS in 1945. KRAUS was described as being "responsible for most of ODOPAL Salzburg's positive intelligence networks". The most important one of these, which purported to run into the USSR through Finland, was finally proved to be a complete fabrication.</p> <p>The ODOPAL officer in contact with KRAUS later joined KUBARK and such of the KUBARK information concerning KRAUS stems from him. KUBARK considered recruiting KRAUS in 1954-1955 but decided against so doing because of the fact that he still maintained some sort of casual contact with ODOPAL at that time and because his record indicated some doubt of his trustworthiness.</p>																																																				
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In the fall of 1953 KRAUS made a trip to the U.S. for conferences with certain members of Congress in an attempt to gain support for the VdU. The results of these conferences are not known. KRAUS later left the VdU and in 1956 was offered a position on the election slate of the Austrian Liberal Party (FPÖ). KRAUS was dissatisfied with this position, and approached the Peoples Party (ÖVP) with an offer to run as its candidate. The file does not reflect KRAUS's political fortunes since that time.

2. Headquarters has no particular interest in monitoring KRAUS's activities at this time. If you continue the intercepts on RECHENBERG, periodic summaries of the traffic concerning KRAUS will suffice.

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